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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SCHOFIELD  
Serial No.: n/a  
Filed: Contemporaneous Herewith  
Entitled: Vacuum Pumping Arrangement  
Atty. Dkt.: M02B162

Group Art Unit: n/a  
Examiner: n/a

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The Examiner's attention is directed to the documents identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B "Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant." A copy of each non-US patent document is enclosed.


Please consider all the listed documents and list them on the cover sheet of any patents to issue from the subject application.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or within three months of the date of entry of the National Phase of an international application or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no additional fee is due. As a precaution, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any fee required by this submission.

Very truly yours,

Date: May 26, 2005  
The BOC Group, Inc.  
Legal Services - Intellectual Property  
575 Mountain Avenue  
Murray Hill, NJ 07974  
(908) 771-6469

  
Ira Lee Zebrak  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 31,147

Attachments  
Forms PTO/SB/08A & PTO/SB/08B  
Cited References

PVN:bjl

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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***(Use as many sheets as necessary)***

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	SCHOFIELD
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	M02B162

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner  
Signature

Date Considered	
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)	<b>Application Number</b>		
	<b>Filing Date</b>		
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>		SCHOFIELD
	<b>Art Unit</b>		
	<b>Examiner Name</b>		
Sheet 2	of 2	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b> M02B162	

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	8	United Kingdom Search Report of Application No. GB 0229355.3; Date of search: July 16, 2003	
	9	PCT International Search Report of International Application No. PCT/GB 03/05370; Date of mailing of the International Search Report: April 29, 2004	

<b>Examiner Signature</b>		<b>Date Considered</b>	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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